

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A lighting control apparatus comprising:

a use detection means for sending out a use detection signal when detecting that a display means is placed in a use state; and

an optical limitation means for limiting light emitted out of a lighting means and incident upon a screen of said display means when said use detection signal from said use detection means indicates that said display means is placed in use,

wherein said lighting means is external to said display.
2. (original): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when detecting that said display means is pulled out from an accommodating means, said use detection means sends out the use detection signal.
3. (original): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when detecting that said display means is powered on, said use detection means sends out the use detection signal.
4. (original): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when detecting a video signal from said display means, said use detection means sends out the use detection signal.

5. (original): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said optical limitation means reduces the light emitted out of said lighting means according to the use detection signal.

6. (original): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said optical limitation means reduces the light incident upon said display means according to the use detection signal.

7. (canceled).

8. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said optical limitation means limits light that is incident upon the screen of said display means and is then reflected from the screen of said display means, and
wherein said display means is disposed in a moving object.

9. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said lighting means is disposed outside said display means.

10. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said lighting means is disposed at an inner area of a vehicle to provide interior lighting.

11. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said detection means comprises a switch.

12. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said lighting means emits visible light when said display means is not in use.

13. (currently amended): A lighting control apparatus comprising:
a use detection circuit which sends out a use detection signal when detecting that a display is placed in a use state; and
an optical limitation circuit which limits light emitted out of a lighting device and which is incident upon a screen of said display when said use detection signal from said use detection circuit indicates that said display is placed in use,
wherein said lighting device is external to said display.

14. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein when detecting that said display is pulled out from an accommodating area, said use detection circuit sends out the use detection signal.

15. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein when detecting that said display is powered on, said use detection circuit sends out the use detection signal.

16. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein when detecting a video signal from said display, said use detection circuit sends out the use detection signal.

17. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said optical limitation circuit reduces the light emitted out of said lighting device according to the use detection signal.

18. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said optical limitation circuit reduces the light incident upon said display according to the use detection signal.

19. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said optical limitation circuit limits light that is incident upon the screen of said display and which is then reflected from the screen of said display, said display being disposed in a moving object.

20. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said lighting device is disposed outside said display.

21. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said lighting device is disposed at an inner area of a vehicle to provide interior lighting.

22. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said detection circuit comprises a switch.

23. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said lighting device emits visible light when said display is not in use.

24. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said optical limitation means limits light emitted out of said lighting means and incident upon a front surface of said screen of said display means when said use detection signal from said use detection means indicates that said display means is placed in use.

25. (previously presented): The lighting control apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said optical limitation circuit limits light emitted out of said lighting device and incident upon a front surface of said screen of said display when said use detection signal from said use detection circuit indicates that said display is placed in use.